



Population Health Webinar Notes

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Farah Ahmed, MPH, PhD | Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics

Slide 3: KDHE is continuing to monitor for influenza like illness in outpatients using sentinel clinics in all regions of the state. We are also monitoring emergency department visits and hospitalization due to influenza. This data is published weekly on the KDHE website at the following URL: <http://www.kdheks.gov/flu/surveillance.htm>. Kansas is still at widespread influenza activity, but this week we are higher for both outpatient visits and emergency department visits than the last two flu seasons. However, overall this has been a milder season than in previous years.

Historically influenza has peaked in January – February in Kansas but because we are continuing to detect an increase in H3N2 we may continue to see increases in flu activity into April. There have been 45 deaths with influenza as the direct cause of death reported.

Slide 4: The Kansas Department of Health and Environment was notified of a dog exhibiting signs of rabies on February 23, 2019 and subsequently tested positive for rabies on February 25, 2019; onset of signs of rabies was on February 21, 2019. A specimen was submitted to CDC, where the diagnosis of rabies was confirmed on February 28, 2019 and typed as a cosmopolitan dog rabies virus variant consistent with other sequences reported from Egypt. This strain of rabies is not found in the US. This dog was one of a group of 26 dogs. The remaining 25 dogs from Egypt were returned to the shelter in Kansas and are in quarantine. All the dogs in this group had a certificate of veterinary inspection and documentation of receiving one rabies vaccination in Egypt. However, testing indicates only seven dogs were vaccinated and the rest had never received a rabies vaccine. This raises the uncertainty about the validity of the rabies vaccination of all the dogs, their potential exposure to rabies in Egypt, and the conditions of quarantine prior to arrival into the United States. CDC has notified WHO to determine if a potential public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) will be declared. There have been three instances of imported dogs from Egypt developing rabies; 2017 in Connecticut, and 2015 in New Jersey.

Slide 5: The HAI program at KDHE is working with other state health departments, and federal partners on two investigations. The first is a recall of a stem cell product, Liveyon, after 13

persons developed bacterial infections, including one from Kansas. Currently, the only stem cell treatments approved by the FDA are products that treat certain cancers and disorders of the blood and immune system.

Slide 6: The second investigation that the HAI program at KDHE is working with other state health departments and federal partners is weight loss surgery performed at the Grand View Hospital in Tijuana, Mexico. Persons from the US including in Kansas are returning from surgery with a drug resistant bacterial infection.

CDC has issued a travel recommendation that travelers to Mexico not have surgery there until the Mexican government can confirm that the drug-resistant bacteria is no longer there.

The CDC link contains additional information about recommendations for medical tourism.

Slide 7: As previously mentioned, with the new Childhood Blood Lead Prevention grant, we will be offering paid scholarships to people interested in becoming Elevated Blood Lead (EBL) Certified Investigators. We have had a lot of interest after the last population health call. For more information please email Jessica Willard at Jessica.Willard@ks.gov.

As mentioned last month, KHEL will be phasing out the use of filter paper for blood lead testing in April. The move away from filter paper is for many reasons, including the limited number of companies that produce the filter paper, the amount of time it takes to analyze samples on filter paper, and, most importantly, the accuracy of filter paper versus other methods. KHEL will move toward supplying local health departments with EDTA microtainer tubes that can be used to still collect capillary samples from a finger stick. More information will be coming, including a training video on how to collect blood samples using the EDTA microtainer tubes.

For questions about either of these items, please contact Jessica Willard.

Slide 8: County and regional level reports from the Kansas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance data are now available.

The 2017 Local BRFSS Data Reports represents one year of data, designed for use by local and regional public health officials, community leaders and policy makers in identifying health conditions and behaviors related to chronic and communicable diseases, disability and injury. The information is unique to your county and/or region and provides the ability to compare your data with state statistics.

More than 20,000 adult Kansans participated in the 2017 survey, comprising a sample large enough to provide reliable information for 42 of the state's 105 counties and for 16 Public Health Preparedness Regions. Information for 41 health risk indicators, analyzed at the subpopulation level, is available in these reports.

For counties that do not have their own data reports can use their regional data reports as a proxy.

For additional data requests and technical assistance please contact Pratik Pandya at Pratik.Pandya@ks.gov or 785-296-6513.

Local & Regional BRFSS Data Reports are available at:

http://www.kdheks.gov/brfss/HRSReports/local_hrs_reports_index.htm.

Slide 9: Updated website for the Kansas Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
- Local Data, 2011-2017 will be available in a couple of weeks.

The health risk indicators are presented in an interactive format with data in the form of tables, graphs, maps and trend lines. It allows the user to effectively access, navigate and visualize the multi-year data from the 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017 KS BRFSS surveys.

Please contact Pratik Pandya at Pratik.Pandya@ks.gov if you need any assistance in navigation of the website or for the interpretation of local data.

Cristi Cain | Local Public Health Program

Slide 14: Register for this event at <https://nekansasgrants101.eventbrite.com>. For more information, contact HRSA at HRSAORORRegion7@hrsa.gov.

Grants 101 Workshop



The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Office of Regional Operations, in partnership with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and Kansas State University, is hosting a grants 101 workshop.

Monday, May 20, 2019
9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Manhattan, Kansas – Kansas State University

Who Should Attend This Event?

Community and faith-based organizations, hospitals, health centers, colleges, and public health departments interested in learning how to get registered for federal and state funding opportunities, where to find those opportunities, and how to create a more competitive proposal.

To register for this event, go to
<https://nekansasgrants101.eventbrite.com>

For more information, contact HRSA at HRSAORORRegion7@hrsa.gov

TOPICS AT A GLANCE

- Federal grant application process
- Common mistakes and important tips
- Federal and State funding opportunities
- Engaging and collaborating with foundations



Philip Harris, MA, CHES® | Bureau of Health Promotion

Slide 31: This Kansas Vape-Free Schools Toolkit is a guide to help your school or school district become tobacco-free and e-cigarette-free.

Contains information and resources to help your school effectively implement, clearly communicate, regularly enforce and support a truly tobacco-free and e-cigarette-free campus.

If you follow this link (<https://bit.ly/2HzgPQD>), you will also find a webinar recording of a presentation titled “JUUL, Vape and E-cigarettes, Unifying the Tobacco Prevention Approach”. This was made available in efforts to fulfill the abundance of requests we are getting to present to school staff and parents about e-cigarettes. Also available are the slides to this webinar as well as the transcription – feel free to deliver the presentation yourselves!

Please note that the next Webinar will be April 23, 2019 at 10am.